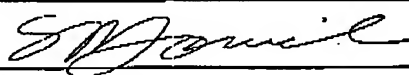
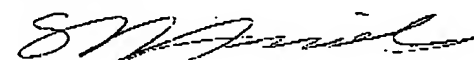


PTO/SB/21 (12-97)

Approved for use through 9/30/00. OMB 0651-0031

Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b> <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>	Application Number	10/733,786	<b>RECEIVED</b> <b>CENTRAL FAX CENTER</b> <b>OCT 25 2005</b>
	Filing Date	December 11, 2003	
	First Named Inventor	Kenneth MADDEN	
	Group Art Unit	3679	
	Examiner Name	Aaron M. DUNWOODY	Fax: (571) 273-8300
Total No. of Pages in this Submission: 6		Attorney Docket Number GEMVAL P18AUS	
ENCLOSURES <i>(check all that apply)</i>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Response <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request (in Duplicate) <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Part/s Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment papers (for an Application) <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition Routing Slip (PTO/SB/69) and Accompanying Petition <input type="checkbox"/> To Convert a Provisional Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Additional Enclosure(s) (please identify below):	
REMARKS			
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT			
Firm or Individual Name	Scott A. Daniels DAVIS & BUJOLD, P.L.L.C.		Reg. No. 42,462 CUSTOMER NO. 020210
Signature			
Date	October 25, 2005		
CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO on October 25, 2005			
Type or printed name	Scott A. Daniels		
Signature			Date: October 25, 2005 (lfb)

OCT 25 2005

Response Under 37 CFR 1.116  
Expedited Procedure  
Examining Group: 3679  
PATENT APPLICATION

10/25/05

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of	:	Kenneth MADDEN
Serial no.	:	10/733,786
Filed	:	December 11, 2003
For	:	COUPLING APPARATUS
Group Art Unit	:	3679
Examiner	:	Aaron M. DUNWOODY
Docket	:	GEMVAL P18AUS

**MAIL STOP AF**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent & Trademark Office  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE**

Dear Sir:

[XXX] NO FEES ARE PAYABLE WITH RESPECT TO THIS RESPONSE.
--

In response to the official action mailed July 28, 2005, please enter the following before reconsideration of this application.

**In the Claims:**

Please cancel claim 12, without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter therein and amend claims 1 and 4, shown by underlining and/or the claims deletions are shown by strikeout. Please enter the amended claims into the record of this case.